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tition difficult. Exports of canned vegetables and fruit products without sugar, as for example dried fruits (apricots), pulp and tomato juice just now seem to offer greater possibilities, but foreign quality competition is still severe.

Cement

There are two cement factories in Syria, one near Damascus and one in Aleppo. Their combined capacity in 1953 was 243,000 metric tons. Planned expansions are expected to result in an increase to 403,000 tons by 1955. The two companies have about 500 factory employees, working on a continuous three-shift basis and there are about 300 additional workers in the quarries.

There are ample supplies of limestone in close proximity to each factory. The other constituent materials are readily available and are usually brought in as return loads. Refractory bricks are imported. The rotary kilns are oil fired, about 150 kg. of fuel oil being used for each metric ton of cement produced. The transport costs of fuel oil are heavy, varying from £S 10 to over £S 20 per ton.

Syrian cement now costs about £S 80 per ton ex factory, including the tax (for domestic use) of £S 15 per ton, against prices of from £S 50 to £S 70 per ton for European and Lebanese cement c.i.f. Beirut.

Glass

Glassmaking is one of Syria's traditional industries. Until the end of the last war, broken glass constituted its raw material and primitive hand methods were used, but production is now concentrated mainly in one large factory on the outskirts of Damascus. There are also 12 small enterprises, several of them in the Damascus area, engaged in the production of bottles, glass containers, lamp glasses, etc. Machines are used in certain processes, but production is still largely in the hands of glass blowers.

The output of the large Damascus factory, considered to be the most modern factory of its kind in the Middle East, averaged almost 4,000 tons annually during 1950-53. Sand has to be imported from Lebanon, as the local sand is unsuitable; soda ash and silica are imported from Europe and fuel oil from Lebanon. The company sells its standard window glass in

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indicates that in this field Syria has become a competitor in foreign markets. In dyeing, printing and finishing there seems to be need for additional modern plant. It also seems desirable to investigate the possibility of profitable production of jute fabric sacks. Imports of these sacks have rapidly increased in the last few years, reaching a total of nearly 10,000 tons with a value of £S 6 million in 1953. The need for jute sacks would be lessened if bulk transportation and storage facilities were available but even in that event an increase in general agricultural production might make the establishment of a factory for sack production from imported jute fiber or yarn an economic possibility.

Further expansion of the cement industry may well be required. In fact, the government has authorized a new plant for Aleppo which may be transferred to the Jezireh to serve the growing requirement of north-eastern Syria. A cement plant for the Homs-Hama region is also under consideration.

In the footwear industry modern factory production has been introduced only with regard to rubber boots and shoes. An experiment with factory production of leather shoes in Aleppo some years ago met with such opposition from the handicraft trade that it was abandoned. Nevertheless this branch of industry may be one in which the application of modern production methods would be appropriate and generally beneficial.

It seems useful to investigate the economic prospects of paper and paperboard manufacture. In 1953 about 8,000 tons of paper with a value of nearly £S 5 million were imported. This total comprises a large variety of different types of paper but some are imported in such quantity as to suggest the feasibility of specialized production. Straw is plentiful as raw material and in a relatively short period more poplar wood could become available if farmers and village communities gave increased attention to tree planting.

The production of metal from scrap and the gradual development of an engineering industry may also be contemplated. The manufacture of simple pumps and engines as well as spare parts is already being carried out by many small shops but the quality of the output suffers from inadequate technical supervision. An adequately equipped and staffed plant might be able to undertake the production of these items as well as the improved types of agricultural implements to be developed for use on farms.

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quantity of used and army surplus equipment was utilized in the smaller towns and villages, complete records of these operations are not available.

The best assessment the mission can make of power investment in Syria is to start with the conservative cost estimate of £S 450 per KVA for diesel-driven sets, and £S 7.5 million for the only steam plant in Syria with transmission lines and transformer stations. On this basis the cost of the 46,000 KVA of the former and 12,500 KVA of the latter, added to £S 1 million for the Amir Ghajar hydro turbine generators and £S 2 million for development of the networks, give a figure of about £S 25 million. This should, however, be taken as an indication of the order of magnitude rather than as an approximation of actual investment.

II INDUSTRIAL POWER

A statement of present and expected power consumption in the leading Syrian industries is necessary for an assessment of the anticipated power requirements of the country as a whole. The factories discussed below rely mainly upon their private power supplies, a situation which is likely to change somewhat as additional public utility projects are completed.

Cement

The two cement factories at Damascus and Aleppo are among the most important industrial power consumers. In 1953 their output was 171,000 and 72,000 tons, respectively; it is expected that output will rise to 253,000 and 150,000 tons by 1955. At an average consumption rate of 90 KWH per ton, this total of 403,000 tons would require about 36 million KWH.

To meet the 1953 demand for about 22 million KWH the two factories had plants of 4,600 and 3,000 KW capacity, respectively. The Damascus factory, unlike that in Aleppo, is connected with the public utilities network, thus permitting the future transfer of cheap hydroelectric power from the projected Barada plant. The Aleppo plant may insure itself against a breakdown of its own equipment through a link with the steam plant now under construction, but as soon as cheap hydro power becomes available from the Youssef Pasha project, it can be assumed that the factory will turn to the public utilities network for at least part of its power requirements.

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انتاج الاسمنت في معمل دمر - دمشق حسب الشهور خلال شهور ١٩٤٧ - ١٩٥٢
(بالطن)

PRODUCTION OF CEMENT IN DUMMAR FACTORY, DAMASCUS, MONTHS OF 1947 — 1952
(In tons)

Table No. 19

جدول رقم ١٩

Months	١٩٤٧ 1947	١٩٤٨ 1948	١٩٤٩ 1949	١٩٥٠ 1950	١٩٥١ 1951	١٩٥٢ 1952	الشهور
January	4,676	3,414	3,699	4,621	3,438	4,473	كانون ثاني
February	4,949	1,599	3,385	4,751	1,195	7,446	شباط
March	4,000	1,898	4,265	7,600	2,127	6,939	آذار
April	2,986	4,796	4,883	6,957	1,621	7,977	نيسان
May	4,019	6,278	5,347	3,574	2,506	10,970	أيار
June	5,011	5,720	4,784	6,184	3,099	8,572	حزيران
July	2,459	7,045	5,783	5,715	4,001	10,613	تموز
August	4,115	4,788	5,302	4,942	3,732	12,036	آب
September	4,120	6,987	4,448	6,587	3,825	7,768	ايلول
October	3,291	5,061	4,824	5,677	3,001	7,107	تشرين اول
November	4,185	4,279	5,456	4,790	5,434	11,768	تشرين ثاني
December	4,415	2,537	5,527	6,251	4,756	11,672	كانون اول
Total	48,226	54,404	57,703	67,649	38,737	107,341	المجموع

انتاج الاسمنت في الجمهورية السورية خلال عامي ١٩٥٢ - ١٩٥٣
(بالطن)

CEMENT PRODUCTION IN SYRIA DURING 1952, 1953
(in tons)

Table No. 20

جدول رقم ٢٠

Months	Total المجموع	معمل حلب ١٩٥٢ Aleppo Factory 1952	معمل دمر-دمشق ١٩٥٢ Dummar Factory 1952	Total المجموع	معمل حلب ١٩٥٣ Aleppo Factory 1953	معمل دمر-دمشق ١٩٥٣ Dummar Factory 1953	الشهور
January	4,473	—	4,473	12,566	6,705	5,861	كانون ثاني
February	7,446	—	7,446	14,482	6,616	7,866	شباط
March	6,939	—	6,939	18,703	7,012	11,691	آذار
April	7,977	—	7,977	20,734	6,099	14,635	نيسان
May	17,029	6,059	10,970	24,182	7,344	16,838	أيار
June	13,041	4,469	8,572	18,590	7,160	11,430	حزيران
July	15,019	4,406	10,613	16,137	5,404	10,733	تموز
August	17,900	5,864	12,036	16,617	4,548	12,069	آب
September	14,100	6,332	7,768	21,799	6,409	15,390	ايلول
October	11,067	3,960	7,107	21,734	6,201	15,533	تشرين اول
November	18,442	6,674	11,768	21,906	6,406	15,502	تشرين ثاني
December	17,192	5,480	11,672	16,187	7,391	8,796	كانون اول
Total	150,595	43,254	107,341	223,639	77,295	146,344	المجموع

Source : Ministry of National Economy

المصدر : وزارة الاقتصاد الوطني

433 The building industry expanded considerably during the post-war period. Authorized floor space in new buildings in Damascus increased from 56,000 square
• 339 metres in 1945, to 209,000 in 1950 and 265,000 in 1953. Output of cement rose correspondingly, from 35,000 tons in 1945 to 68,000 in 1950, 224,000 in 1953 and
323 114,000 tons during the first half of 1954. This fully meets local demand. A glass factory, with a capacity of 10,000 tons, established in the post-war period, reached a maximum production of 5,500 tons in 1954; it exports small amounts to neighbouring countries.

377 Output of electricity showed little increase during the war, but after the
471 war demand rose rapidly. The inability of the foreign concessionary companies operating in Damascus and Aleppo to expand capacity sufficiently fast led the Government, in 1951, to nationalize them, for compensation, and to instal
433 additional equipment; 1/ in 1954, the Homs-Hama electricity company was also nationalized. Output by public utilities has risen considerably in recent years, from 47 million kilowatt-hours in 1947 to 81 million in 1950, 114 million in 1953 and 80 million in the first eight months of 1954; output by industrial power plants is probably over 40 million kilowatt-hours per annum.

433 Other important industries include tanning, and the making of matches, cardboard, soap, nails, pins and plastics.

433 Government assistance to industry has taken four main forms: tariff protection, tax exemption, financial aid and regulation of standards and prices.
656 In the early post-war years foreign competition weighed heavily on the Syrian market. The ending of the customs union with Lebanon in 1950 (see below) led to a decrease in competition in some industries, notably spinning; but other industries, such as weaving and canning, which marketed a substantial proportion of their output in Lebanon, suffered. In recent years, protection has been greatly increased by the raising of customs duties on competing goods 2/ or by prohibiting the importing of such goods: among the prohibited articles were matches, soap, shoes, socks and stockings, glass products, canned fruits and vegetables, wooden furniture and alcoholic drinks. These measures seem to have greatly decreased foreign competition; nevertheless, in recent years, prices of local manufactures have tended to decline. 3/

1/ Between the autumn of 1951 and the end of 1953, a total capacity of 6,450 kilowatts was installed in Damascus (Al Manar, special issue on Syrian industry, Damascus 1954); a total of £S 9.5 million was advanced by the Government to the nationalized firms for expansion and improvements. At the end of 1953, the total capacity of public utilities was 34,000 kilowatts and that of industrial power plants was over 20,000 kilowatts. Two plants with a capacity of 17,000 kilowatts were scheduled for completion at the end of 1954.

2/ For example, in 1952, duties on several types of woollen and cotton goods were raised by 25 to 50 per cent.

3/ The index of wholesale prices of domestic industrial products rose from 93 in 1950 (1949 = 100) to 111 in 1951, but declined to 103 in 1952, 88 in 1953 and 79 in the first nine months of 1954.